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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Border Guard Units in Sandanski Area 2. Miscellaneous Road Information	DATE DISTR.	7 July 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

The "Mir" Border Guard Komandatura in Petrovo, Sandanski Okoliya

1. The "Mir" Border Guard Komandatura, whose commanding officer is an unidentified captain, is quartered in Petrovo (N 41-26, E 23-31), Sandanski Okoliya. Their barracks are situated in the northern part of the village. The soldiers are armed with Soviet rifles, submachineguns and light machine guns. This komandatura is composed of the following zastavas:
 - a. One zastava, located approximately two kilometers south of Goleshovo (N 41-26, E 23-33), near a monastery and approximately 4-5 kilometers from the border;
 - b. A second zastava, located approximately 100 paces from the southern section of Lekhovo (N 41-24, E 23-29) and 500-1,000 meters from the border; and
 - c. A third zastava, located approximately 500 meters east of Novo Khodzovo (N 41-24, E 23-24); the Bistritsa River flows between the Zastava and Novo Khodzovo; the 40 soldiers of the Zastava are commanded by an unidentified second lieutenant; the Zastava is located approximately 1.5 kilometers from the border; an observation post, without a tower, is located on a hill approximately 500 meters southeast of the Zastava and is connected with it by telephone.
2. A 3,000-meter single barbed wire fence is located between the Bistritsa River and the old Border Guard post near Piperitsa (N 41-24, E 23-27). A 500-600 meter fence made of branches runs near Lekhovo. A plowed strip of land about 30 meters in width is also located in this area.

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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "##")

SECRET

- 2 -

The Katuntsi-Petrich Road

3. The Katuntsi (N 41-27, E 23-26) - Petrich road is gravelled, five meters wide, and is kept in good condition for the use of all types of vehicles. The only tank obstacles on the road are located between the villages of Marino Pole (N 41-25, E 23-21) and Mari Kostenovo (N 41-26, E 23-21). There are five large and many small bridges on this road, as follows:
- The bridge in Katuntsi over the Pirinska Bistritsa River; it is made of wood and has three stone supports and one wooden support; the bridge is five meters wide, 60 meters long and eight meters high; the bridge has a 15-ton capacity and a tank can pass over it;
 - The bridge crossing a stream located approximately 50 meters west of Katuntsi; it is five meters wide, 20-30 meters long, and approximately four meters high; the bridge is made of reinforced concrete without supports and with iron handrails and could probably support a tank;
 - Approximately one kilometer east of the bridge mentioned in b. above, there is a bridge which crosses another stream; it is about five meters wide, about 25 meters long, and four meters high; this bridge is made of reinforced concrete without supports and has iron handrails;
 - The bridge located in the northern section of Chuchuligovo (N 41-22, E 23-24); it is five meters wide, approximately 35 meters long, and about 2-3 meters high; it has two or three supports; the bridge is made of reinforced concrete and has handrails; it can support a tank since many German tanks used this bridge during World War II;
 - A wooden bridge which crosses the Struma River; it is five meters wide, about 100 meters long, and three meters high; it has wooden supports located three meters apart; the bridge is often covered by water from the river; and
 - A number of small arched bridges made of stone, which cross small streams and are located between the bridge mentioned in e. above and Petrich.

During the summer of 1951, holes were made in the bridges listed in a., b., and c. above so that explosives could be placed in them.

The Sandanski-Sofia Road

4. On the highway to Petrich, approximately 1-1.5 kilometers from the bridge over the Struma River, a gravelled road five meters in width branches off in the direction of Sandanski and Sofia. This road is in good condition and any type of vehicle may be used on it. Between this point and Sandanski there are four bridges, as follows:
- Over the Melnishka River; five meters wide, 50 meters long, and about four meters high;
 - Over the Sklavaska River; five meters wide and about 50 meters long;
 - Over the Elesheshka River; about five meters wide and about 30 meters long; and
 - Over the Sandanski River; about five meters wide and about 35-40 meters long.
- All of these bridges are made of reinforced concrete and have supports and handrails.

SECRET

SECRET
- 3 -

The Katuntsi-Petrovo Road

5. The Katuntsi-Petrovo road is gravelled, and is five meters in width. This road was completed during 1950 and was constructed especially to serve the Petrovo power station. It is in good condition. There are two small bridges on this road, as follows:

- a. One located approximately 1.5-2 kilometers east of Katuntsi; and
- b. One located near the power station where the road terminates.

Both bridges are made of reinforced concrete and have no supports.

The Piperitsa-Katuntsi Road

6. The Piperitsa-Katuntsi road is a dirt road which is unsuitable for heavy vehicles.

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